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15	Palisades	861 Alma Real Dr. (310) 459-2754
22	Palms-Rancho Park	2920 Overland Ave. (310) 840-2142
55	Playa Vista	6400 Playa Vista Dr. (310) 437-6680
42	Robertson	1719 S. Robertson Blvd. (310) 840-2147
40	Venice	501 S. Venice Blvd. (310) 821-1769
27	*West Los Angeles	11360 Santa Monica Blvd. (310) 575-8323
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Trump nears a historic decision on Iran

U.S. could join Israel's war, as opportunity to end Tehran's nuclear program has arisen.

By MICHAEL WILNER

WASHINGTON — President Trump is nearing a historic decision on whether to join Israel's war against Iran, a choice that will reshape the Middle East while dividing his Cabinet and his party over America's role in the world.

The fateful choice has presented itself, U.S. and Israeli officials told The Times, after Israeli forces cleared a runway for Washington's involvement by hobbling Iranian air defenses and reducing the risks to U.S. aircraft. "We now have complete and total control of the skies over Iran," Trump wrote on social media Tuesday, calling for Iran's "unconditional surrender" over the future of its decades-old nuclear program.

Up until Friday, when Israel's surprise attack began, the president had been skeptical of its prospects and had distanced himself from the operation. Israel's air and intelligence forces have targeted Iran's nuclear sites, scientific and military leadership, air defenses and ballistic missile networks, killing at least 224 people, according to Iranian authorities.

Germany's chancellor, Friedrich Merz, bluntly described the Israeli operation in a Tuesday interview. "This is the dirty work that Israel is doing for all of us," he said.

[See Mideast, A4]



ARAB ISRAELI mourners comfort the mother of a victim of an Iranian missile attack in Tamra, Israel.

JOHN WESSELS AFP/Getty Images

Court weighs case for troops in L.A.

9th Circuit will decide whether Trump can deploy the military to quell protests, aid ICE.

By SONJA SHARP

The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments Tuesday questioning both President Trump's decision to deploy federal troops to Los Angeles and the court's right to review it, teeing up what is likely to be a fierce new challenge to presidential power in the U.S. Supreme Court.

A panel of three judges — two appointed by President Trump, one by President Biden — pressed hard on the administration's central assertion that the president had nearly unlimited discretion to deploy the military on American streets.

But they also appeared to cast doubt on last week's ruling from a federal judge in San Francisco that control of the National Guard must immediately return to California authorities. A pause on that decision remains in effect while the judges deliberate, with a decision expected as soon as this week.

"The crucial question ... is whether the judges seem inclined to accept Trump's argument that he alone gets to decide if the statutory requirements for nationalizing the California National Guard are met," said Erwin Chemerinsky, dean of the UC Berkeley School of Law.

The questions at the heart of the case test the limits of presidential authority, which the U.S. Supreme Court has vastly expanded in recent years.

[See Troops, A7]

7 indicted in massive jewelry theft at Grapevine truck stop

Only some of the gems taken in 2022 Brink's heist are recovered

By DANIEL MILLER,
BRITTNY MEJIA
AND RICHARD WINTON

It was a jewelry heist days in the making — one allegedly planned by thieves who had worked their way up to a major score after honing their covert craft in the parking lots and truck stops of San Bernardino County.

When they broke into a Brink's big rig at a remote Grapevine truck stop in the dead of night three years ago, the men may have gotten more than they bargained for: a haul that could be worth up to \$100 million.

That would make the theft of 24 bags containing jewelry, gems, watches and other precious items on July 11, 2022, among the biggest heists of all time.

All of this according to an indictment unsealed Tuesday by federal

[See Brink's, A8]



MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

THE FLYING J Travel Center in Lebec, Calif., was the scene of the July 11, 2022, crime, considered among the biggest heists of all time.



MEL MELCON Los Angeles Times

IN CALIFORNIA, 88% of landscaping and groundskeeping workers are Latino.

Their work doesn't stop

Gardeners weigh the fear of being swept up in ICE

\$500 million in bonds will pay school sex abuse claims

L.A. district tries to lessen financial impact of settling suits over alleged misconduct.

By HOWARD BLUME

The Los Angeles school district will sell up to \$500 million in bonds to pay for past alleged sexual misconduct — loans that must be paid back over time by the school system — part of a blizzard of claims dating back as far as the 1970s that are affecting government entities, churches and private

organizations up and down the state.

L.A. Unified alone has faced about 370 sexual abuse claims, according to information released Monday.

By issuing bonds, which were approved at a June 3 school board meeting, the nation's second-largest school system stretches out repayments over 15 years, diluting the toll on its annual budget — and on services and programs.

Officials said Monday that L.A. Unified would initially sell \$303.6 million in bonds — because that is the amount needed to retire relatively low-cost, but

short-term, loans that the district had been using for payouts, which have totaled a staggering \$302 million in the current fiscal year alone.

Although Supt. Alberto Carvalho now has the authority to go up to \$500 million in bonds, "estimates indicate that additional amounts over \$500 million may be required," according to a district spokesperson. The bonds being used are called judgment obligation bonds.

Unlike traditional school construction and modernization bonds, voter approval is not needed for these [See LAUSD, A7]

CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025 :: LATIMES.COM/CALIFORNIA

'You have people holding up their press credentials saying, "I'm press," and they still got shot.'

— CAROL SOBEL, civil rights attorney



JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

POLICE at a protest. Journalists have been shot at, tear-gassed and detained without cause, a suit says.

Media rights groups sue LAPD over use of force at protests

A coalition of media rights organizations is seeking a court order to stop the "continuing abuse" of journalists by the Los Angeles Police Department during protests over President Trump's immigration crackdown.

The federal lawsuit, filed Monday by the Los Angeles Press Club and investigative reporting network Status Coup, seeks to "force the LAPD to respect the constitutional and statutory rights of journalists engaged in reporting on these protests and inevitable protests to come."

The suit cites multiple instances of officers firing foam projectiles at

The suit cites multiple instances of officers firing foam projectiles at journalists

By Libor Jany

members of the media and otherwise flouting state laws that restrict the use of so-called less-lethal weapons in crowd-control situations and protect journalists covering the unrest. Those measures were passed in the wake of the protests over the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police in 2020, when journalists were detained and injured by the LAPD while covering the unrest.

The recent suit filed in the Central District of California describes journalists being shot with less-lethal police rounds, tear-gassed and detained without cause.

[See Lawsuit, B2]

State bill could ban masks for ICE agents

The proposal aimed at all law enforcement comes as immigration sweeps trigger worries over 'secret police.'

By SANDRA McDONALD

SACRAMENTO — In response to immigration raids by masked federal officers in Los Angeles and across the nation, two California lawmakers on Monday proposed a new state law to ban members of law enforcement from concealing their faces while on the job.

The bill would make it a misde-



CARLIN STIEHL Los Angeles Times

TEAR GAS is deployed during a "No Kings Day" rally on Saturday.

Unrest costs L.A. close to \$20 million so far

Some estimates, excluding the po-

Klamath River land is returned to its ancestral caretakers

A years-long effort gives Yurok Tribe control over 73 square miles of habitat.

By IAN JAMES

Along the Klamath River in Northern California, where logging companies once cut ancient redwood trees, vast tracts of land have been returned to the Yurok Tribe in a years-long effort that tribal leaders say will enable the restoration of forests and the protection of a watershed that is vital for salmon.

The effort, which unfolded gradually over the last 23 years, culminated in May as the Western Rivers Conservancy turned over 14,968 acres to the Yurok Tribe. It was the last portion of 47,097 acres that the non-profit group acquired and transferred to the tribe in what is thought to be the largest "land back" deal in California history.

Members of the tribe say they are celebrating the return of their ancestral lands along Blue Creek, a major tributary that meets the Klamath about 40 miles south of the Oregon border. Blue Creek holds cultural and spiritual significance for the Yurok, and its cold, clear waters provide a refuge for salmon.

"We are salmon people," said Joseph L. James, chair of the Yurok Tribe. "The river takes care of us, and it's our job to take care of the river."

In all, the tribe now owns an additional 73 square miles along the lower Klamath River, including much of the Blue Creek watershed. The conifer forests, which were heavily logged over the last century, will be managed by the tribal government as two protected areas, the Blue Creek Salmon Sanctuary and the Yurok Tribal Community Forest.

Yurok leaders say regaining stewardship of these lands contributes to larger efforts to revive the ecological health of the Klamath watershed, where last year the removal of four dams farther upstream restored a free-flowing stretch of the river and enabled salmon to reach spawning areas that had been inaccessible for more than a century.

"This land is back home with us now, and we'll continue that work that we have done as Yurok people to protect the land, protect the streams, provide for our people and provide for the environment," James said.

In addition to Blue Creek, the land includes other streams that flow into the

Klamath.

The tribe plans projects to create healthier stream habitats for fish, and to restore meadows and prairies. In the forests, it plans to use controlled burns to thin vegetation that has built up.

Some old logging roads are being decommissioned, while other roads are set to be upgraded.

"We're going to continue to work to bring back our wildlife population, our fish population," James said. "It's going to take a lot of work, but a lot of people are going to benefit from this."

Beyond the local benefits, James said the effort serves as an example for the Land Back movement, in

[See Land, B4]

All 13 of Yosemite camping areas will be open

National Park Service says 500 more sites will be available for first time since 2019.

By TERRY CASTLEMAN

For the first time since 2019, all 13 of Yosemite's campgrounds will be open to visitors this summer, the National Park Service announced.

The additional openings will mean 500 more campsites will be available than in recent years. The park is one of America's most popular, with more than 4 million visitors in 2024.

"We're very excited to have these campgrounds open to the public as we enter the busy summer season," Ray McPadden, acting superintendent at Yosemite National Park, said in a news release. "Camping in this park is truly a magical experience, and we want to provide the opportunity for as many visitors as possible."

Maintenance and staffing challenges kept several campgrounds closed each year beginning in 2020, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Summer is peak season at Yosemite, and many of the park's campgrounds will be

[See Parks, B5]

6-18

CA20

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

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NASDAQ 19521.09 ▼ 0.9%

STOXX 600 542.26 ▼ 0.8%

10-YR. TREAS. ▲ 16/32, yield 4.390%

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GOLD \$3,386.60 ▼ \$9.80

EURO \$1.1482

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What's News

Business & Finance

◆ **Demolitions, conversions** to residential and slowing construction are shrinking the U.S. office glut, putting the amount of office supply on pace to contract for the first time in a quarter of a century. **A1**

◆ **The Senate** was poised to pass legislation to regulate stablecoins, a key victory for the digital-asset industry after it poured money into last year's election. **A1**

◆ **Kraft Heinz** said it would remove artificial dyes from its U.S. products before the end of 2027 as the Trump administration pushes to withdraw the synthetics from the food supply. **B1**

◆ **U.S. stocks fell** and oil prices rose as Israel and Iran traded fire, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow shedding 0.8%, 0.9% and 0.7%, respectively, and U.S. crude futures gaining 4.3% to \$74.84. **B10**

◆ **Industrial production** in the U.S. fell more than expected in May, the Fed said, declining by 0.2%, after increasing by 0.1% in April. **A2**

◆ **Warner Bros. Discovery** will cut Chief Executive David Zaslav's pay when it splits in two next year and give him an extra slug of stock options. **B1**

◆ **Eli Lilly** agreed to acquire Verve Therapeutics for about \$1 billion upfront, adding a potential treatment for cardiovascular disease to its portfolio. **B1**

◆ **Amazon** plans to reduce its workforce in the coming years because increasing use of AI will eliminate the need for certain jobs, Jassy said. **B4**

World-Wide

◆ **Trump** called for Iran's unconditional surrender as he warned that he is losing patience and considered a range of options, including a potential U.S. strike against the country, administration officials said. **A1, A9**

◆ **European governments**, increasingly frustrated with Israel over the war in Gaza, are giving Israel more diplomatic leeway in its showdown with Iran. **A7**

◆ **Two oil tankers** collided near the Strait of Hormuz, as maritime officials warned that navigational systems are being jammed in the region as a result of the Iran-Israel conflict. **A10**

◆ **Republicans'** tax-and-spending megabill would increase budget deficits by \$2.8 trillion through 2034 after factoring in the projected economic growth the bill would create, the CBO estimated. **A4**

◆ **The draft legislation** would raise the estate-tax exemption to \$15 million from the current nearly \$14 million and make the break permanent. **A4**

◆ **New York City comptroller** and mayoral candidate Brad Lander was arrested by authorities at immigration court in Manhattan, becoming the latest official to be detained amid rising tensions with the Trump administration. **A3**

◆ **Former U.S. Sen.** Bob Menendez arrived at a federal prison to begin serving an 11-year sentence for accepting bribes and acting as an

Trump Weighs Possible Strike on Iran

President calls on Tehran to surrender, says supreme leader isn't a target 'for now'

WASHINGTON—President Trump called for Iran's unconditional surrender as he warned he is losing patience and considered a range of options, including a potential U.S. strike against the country, administration officials said.

The officials said a strike was just one of the options Trump was considering and

no decision has been made. The president, who had been pressing for a diplomatic solution, wants to ensure that Iran isn't able to develop its nuclear capabilities, the officials said. The U.S. has expanded its military footprint in the region as the war between Israel and Iran entered a fifth day.

Trump, a Republican, met with his national-security advisers in the Situation Room for more than an hour Tuesday afternoon, shortly after warning on social media that he is losing patience with Iran, calling for unconditional surrender.

By Tarini Parti, Alex Leary and Josh Dawsey

Trump said the U.S. knows where Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei is hiding. "He is an easy target, but is safe there—We are not going to take him out (kill!), at least not for now," Trump wrote on Truth Social, adding, "Our patience is wearing thin."

"UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER!" he wrote in a separate post.

Trump also said Tehran

had lost control of Iran's airspace. "We now have complete and total control of the skies over Iran," Trump wrote. "Iran had good sky trackers and other defensive equipment, and plenty of it, but it doesn't compare to American-made, conceived, and manufactured 'stuff.' Nobody does it better than the good ol' USA."

In his posts, Trump used the word "we," but it wasn't immediately clear if that meant that the U.S. is taking a more active role in Israel's unfolding attacks on Iran. The U.S. has said it hasn't joined

Israel's strikes.

Trump returned to Washington early Tuesday morning, leaving a Group of Seven leaders' summit in Canada a day early to focus on the crisis in the Middle East. Aboard Air Force One, Trump said he was

Please turn to page A8

◆ **Europe backs Israel** despite anger over Gaza..... **A7**

◆ **Iranian exiles** watch with hope tainted by fear..... **A8**

◆ **With airports shut**, Israelis try to return home..... **A9**

◆ **Heard on the Street:** China hooked on Iran oil..... **B11**

Spectacular Eruption Spurs Alert in Indonesia



PILLAR OF SMOKE: A villager watched columns of ash rise from Mount Lewotobi Laki-Laki on Indonesia's Flores Island as it erupted Tuesday. Authorities raised the volcano alert to the highest level, expanding a danger zone to 5 miles from the crater.

Senate Set To Pass Bill Regulating Stablecoin

By AMRITH RAMKUMAR

The Senate was poised to pass legislation to regulate a widely used type of cryptocurrency, a key victory for the digital-asset industry after it poured money into last year's election.

The bill, the first of its kind to put federal guardrails on digital currencies, would set up oversight of stablecoins, a popular crypto asset typically pegged to a fiat currency like the U.S. dollar. That peg keeps their price steady, making them attractive to traders looking for a store of value while they buy and sell more volatile cryptocurrencies. Stablecoins can also be used for cross-border payments.

Known as the Genius Act, once the bill passes the Senate, it will move to the House, where passage is viewed in Washington as likely but could take time. President Trump has said he wants to sign stablecoin legislation before Congress.

Please turn to page A6

Workplace Raids Draw Business Flak

As deportations hit economy, pushback complicates White House priorities

When federal agents raided Glenn Valley Foods in Omaha, Neb., last Tuesday, they arrested about 75 of the meat processor's workers, roughly half of the produc-

By Arian Campo-Flores, Rebecca Picciotto, Patrick Thomas and Tarini Parti

tion line. The following day, the plant was operating at about 15% of capacity, and a skeleton crew strained to fill orders.

Chief Executive Gary Rohwer can't see a future

that doesn't include immigrant workers. "Without them, there wouldn't be an industry," he said.

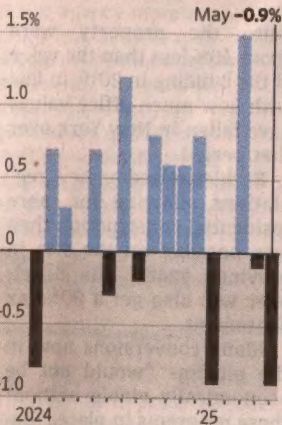
President Trump's aggressive deportation push has slammed into an economic reality: Key industries in the U.S. rely heavily on workers living in the U.S. illegally, many of them for decades. That presents a major challenge for the administration unfolding in real time, with business leaders urging a softer approach while anti-immigration hard-liners demand more deportations.

Please turn to page A10

Retail Sales Fell in May

Consumer spending dropped more steeply than forecast in May from a month earlier, on a decline in auto sales. **A2**

U.S. retail sales, change from a month earlier



Note: Seasonally adjusted

Source: Commerce Department

New Medicaid Cuts Stir More Trouble For GOP Tax Plan

WASHINGTON—Senate Republicans' plan to extract more savings from Medicaid as part of their revised tax and spending package triggered a backlash within the party, raising

By Siobhan Hughes, Richard Rubin and Olivia Beavers

concerns that leaders could miss their self-imposed deadline of getting the bill to President Trump's desk by July 4. Republicans remain divided on a series of issues, ranging from healthcare spending to deficit reduction to clean energy tax credit

state and local tax deductions. A significant GOP revolt on any of these could prove fatal for the legislation, which must clear the 53-47 controlled Senate and be approved again in a rowly divided Republican House.

The tax and of the means Monday, for stat costs

At the say, will help remote after years demand for work. The acceleration conversions won't office buildings are But conversions starting to hoods wh

Office Space Set to S For First Time in 2

By PETER GRANT

tax b

How an Evangelical Pastor Became Washington's 'It' Tailor

Nathaniel Rios wanted to start a church.